

and family of the Milton and Shirley Gralla family as they come together to celebrate Shirley being awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Yeshiva University.

Shirley Gralla's story is that of a child of Eastern European Jewish immigrant parents who came to America. Through her many talents, keen insight and most compassionate nature, Shirley has succeeded in giving aid and hope to those people seeking to come to America and experience the blessings of freedom and prosperity that she has experienced. For more than a decade Shirley Gralla has been recognized as an international leader in assisting refugee families trapped in the former Soviet Union. More recently, Shirley Gralla has become immersed in a comprehensive approach to provide Jewish education and communal services for such refugee families in the United States.

Mrs. Gralla has striven mightily to provide the emotional stability and compassion these people need to establish new and successful lives in America. In conjunction with her husband Milton, a Trustee of Yeshiva University, Mrs. Gralla has initiated a "Celebration of Religious Freedom," enabling Soviet Jewish couples who have immigrated to the United States to be remarried in traditional religious ceremonies denied them under the Communist regime. These ceremonies have taken place throughout the United States as well as Canada and Israel.

Shirley Gralla has consistently demonstrated that she can not only develop dynamic and far-reaching programs, but also roll up her sleeves and join in making things happen. In 1985, with her husband Milton, they sponsored a "Freedom Flight" of Soviet Jews from Bucharest to Israel and personally accompanied these refugees aboard the plane. As more and more Eastern European Jewish emigres obtained their freedom through the demise of the Soviet Union, Mrs. Gralla has extended her efforts and resources to assist and help stabilize these people through educational support programs at Yeshiva University and elsewhere. The Grallas have recently endowed a scholarship fund at Yeshiva University for such students. In addition, Mrs. Gralla and her husband have become Yeshiva University Benefactors by endowing the Gralla Family Research Center for Brain Disorders at the University's Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

It is in the truest tradition of our great country that we give of ourselves freely to assist others. Shirley Gralla has taken this timeless tradition and filled the lives of countless people with love, hope, stability and a realization that even in the darkest moments of one's being there will always be hope. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise with me in honoring this great woman.

TRIBUTE TO SANTO SCRUFARI

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a great Western New Yorker, Santo Salvatore Scrufari. As a laborer, carpenter, foreman, and superintendent, Santo has played a critical role in enriching the econ-

omy of Western New York. As an active member and an officer of Local 280 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America since 1964, Santo has spent decades helping his fellow union members and improving the lives of working families throughout the region. And finally, as my cousin, Santo has proven to be a trusted friend and family member.

The new year marked the retirement of Santo Scrufari, bringing to a close over 35 years of distinguished service. Santo's career began in 1962, as a laborer for the Scrufari Construction Company. Between 1962 and 1970, he quickly moved through the ranks, becoming an apprentice carpenter, then graduating to journeyman carpenter, and finally becoming a carpenter foreman. In 1970, Santo moved to the Smith Brothers Construction Company, where he served as a superintendent through 1979. Finally, Santo served as a general superintendent for the Peter Scrufari Company from 1979 through 1984.

These positions allowed Santo to play an important role in the construction or renovation of several major projects in our community. These building projects, which have all had a major impact on Western New York, include the North Tonawanda Library, Niagara University, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, the Wheatfield Salvage Treatment Plant, the Channel 29 TV Station, and several malls, departments stores, and supermarkets.

But this tells only part of the Santo Scrufari story, for he has also been an active and influential union member for well over 30 years. Santo first joined Local 280 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America in September 1964, and quickly distinguished himself as a champion of workers' rights. Throughout his tenure as a proud union man, Santo held numerous positions of great importance to the union and its members. From serving as Secretary of the Apprenticeship Committee, then as Vice President, and finally as President of Local 280, Santo has touched the lives of hundreds of workers and, in turn, their families.

Santo's union service culminated in 1996, when he was appointed as the Director of Construction Organizing for the Western New York Regional Council of the Carpenters Union. In this and all other positions that Santo has held, he has proven to be a staunch defender of workplace fairness and safety, and other fundamental worker rights that we now take for granted.

Mr. Speaker, anyone who has come into contact with Santo Scrufari can attest to his dedication to the labor movement. Indeed, he will be sorely missed. As both his Congressman and his cousin, I would like to offer my very best wishes to Santo and his wonderful wife, Charlene, for a happy, healthy, and well-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD MARCUS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who devoted his life to this country, his community, and his family. Howard Marcus's commitment to service

began when he joined Peace Corps and continued throughout his life with an active involvement in local sports. He was a coach, a fundraiser, and a friend.

Howard was a partner with Newman & Marcus & Clarenback, Attorneys at Law. He obtained his law degree from the Brooklyn Law School, and his undergraduate degree from Hofstra University. He has served the community in innumerable ways for the past twenty years.

Howard was a Peace Corps volunteer in Colombia from 1967-68, where he devoted a year of his life to helping the poor help themselves. Howard's service will be always be remembered in Colombia by those he touched. We on the Central Coast will forever remember and be thankful for the influence his service had on him. As happens with most Peace Corps Volunteers, Howard returned to the United States with a renewed and much more ardent desire to help his fellow human and make a difference in the community in which he lived.

Howard was the author of "Basketball Basics", which was written from his love for the sport. Howard was recently head coach for the Soquel High School and Branciforte Jr. High School basketball teams, and a mentor to the students that he coached. He provided them with basic skills, but more importantly, he gave them a sense of pride and self-esteem.

Howard, a sports enthusiast, planned many of the fund-raising events for local sports. He was an active member of the booster club and helped get financing for the all-weather track at Soquel High School. He also founded the Santa Cruz Track Club, where he coached, and helped organize the wharf-to-wharf race which helps sponsors high school sports activities.

Howard will be missed by all those who admired and loved him. His community benefited greatly from his unique ability to coach and to care. Our hearts go out to the Marcus Family.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN E. MOSS

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to join today with my colleagues in tribute to one of the giants of the House of Representatives, John E. Moss.

He retired from his career in this body in 1978. But the inspiration he gave to the members who learned at his side is with us still.

I was privileged to begin my career in Congress as a member of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of what was then the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. John Moss chaired that Subcommittee. He taught us all what tough, fair, tenacious, and totally professional investigatory work could be. He used his power to make Government programs and bureaucracy do what they were supposed to do: carry out the laws and serve the public. And he did it whether the cause was popular or not, embarrassing to the Administration or his own party or not, whether he had to stand alone or not.

I particularly remember some of the early work he did around the issues of nursing home conditions, unnecessary surgery, and

abuses by prepaid health plans. They were trailblazers.

We all know of the commitment and achievements of John Moss to open up government information to ordinary citizens through the Freedom of Information Act. We know of his achievements in the fields of product safety and consumer protection. But perhaps not so widely known is the influence his example and integrity had on so many other Members and staff. Mike Lemov, who served as his Chief Counsel on Oversight, said recently in a tribute to his Chairman that John Moss invariably championed the underdog, and relished uphill fights. And that sums him up as well as any words could. He was in many ways, for so many of us, the conscience of the House.

If it needed to be done for the little guy, he was ready to do it. If he needed to take on big business or big government, the Defense Department or the drug companies, he was there. And he did it with thorough, effective, untiring work.

I consider myself lucky to have had the opportunity to serve with him. He has been gone from this House for many years, but the public that he championed continues to benefit because of his work and accomplishments. We would all be proud to leave such a legacy.

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ILA
METTEE-MCCUTCHON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to pay tribute to Colonel Ila Mettee-McCutchon, the Commander of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center and Presidio of Monterey, and Commandant of DLIFLC, on the occasion of her retirement from the U.S. Army. Colonel Mettee-McCutchon has been an inspiration to all during her 26-year career in the armed forces, and her positions of successive command only further confirm her valued leadership within the Army and of the respect shown to her by the men and women serving under her command.

Colonel Mettee-McCutchon is herself an esteemed graduate of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center. She first earned both a B.A. and an M.S. in clinical psychology from Auburn University which prepared her well for her exceptional career in military intelligence. Later, she completed the WAC (Women's Army Corps) Officer Basic Course and the Military Intelligence Officer Advanced Course, and then graduated from the Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College, true marks of distinction in the career of any military officer.

For the first three years following Colonel Mettee-McCutchon's commissioning in 1971, she served as a psychologist at the Presidio of San Francisco responsible for drug and alcohol abuse rehabilitation. After displaying compassion and savvy in that assignment, she was transferred in 1974 to the Military Intelligence Branch and appointed a Regular Army Officer of Military Intelligence, which was the beginning of her extraordinary career in the field of military intelligence. Colonel Mettee-

McCutchon was initially a strategic analyst at Fort Bragg, before moving up to the following posts: Commander, Headquarters and Operations Company, 525th Military Intelligence Brigade, Fort Bragg; Chief, Joint Intelligence Center, U.S. Southern Command Panama; Commander, 741st Military Intelligence Battalion, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, Fort Meade; and Staffer in the Intelligence Division, International Military Staff of NATO, at NATO Headquarters, Brussels. Because of her superb record of accomplishment in these critical intelligence posts, she was chosen to be Commander of the Garrison at the Presidio of Monterey in October, 1994.

Colonel Mettee-McCutchon has earned numerous awards during her career including the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Army Meritorious Service Medal with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters. She is married to John R. McCutchon, Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry (Retired), and has one child, Erin T. Mettee-McCutchon. I am sure everyone who knows Colonel Mettee-McCutchon joins me in recognizing her career of exemplary service to her country, and expressing heartfelt wishes for a happy retirement.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 1998 CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG STAFF EXCHANGE

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the US Congress and the German Parliament have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and convey Members' views on issues of mutual concern.

A staff delegation from the United States Congress will be chosen to visit Germany March 22 to April 4 of this year. During the 2-week exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag members, Bundestag party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies. Cultural activities and a weekend visit in a Bundestag Member's district will complete the schedule.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for 3 weeks this summer. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington and visit the districts of congressional Members.

The Congress-Bundestag exchange is highly regarded in Germany and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. The ongoing situation in Bosnia, the future expansion of NATO and the proposed expansion of the European Union, as well as plans for a single currency will make this year's exchange particularly relevant.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff members who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag sends senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern in Germany and the United States such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, immigration, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to help plan and implement the program for the Bundestag staff members when they visit the United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host one or two Bundestag staffers in their Member's district over the Fourth of July break, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants will be selected by a committee composed of U.S. Information Agency personnel and past participants of the exchange.

Senators and Representatives who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state why they believe they are qualified and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated. Applications may be sent to Kathie Scarrah at 316 Hart Senate Building by Thursday, February 12.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD D. ISAAC

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the retirement of a friend of all veterans, and the only director the West Palm Beach DVA Medical Center has ever known, Mr. Richard D. Isaac.

A graduate of Morehead State University and an Army veteran, Rich began his 25-year Department of Veterans Affairs career in his hometown of Pittsburgh as a recreational therapist. With hard work, a professional attitude and a good sense of humor, he served in ten assignments of increasing responsibility including service as the Associate Director at VAMC in Lake City, FL, and as the Associated Deputy Regional Director at the Southeast Region Field Office in Gainesville, FL.

In 1989, Rich was appointed as the director of the new VA Medical Center to be constructed in Palm Beach County, Florida. During the design phase of the medical center, Rich was charged with the daunting tasks of coordinating the efforts of regional clinical and administrative advisors who provided input to architects in the design of each department, as well as evaluating and implementing the overall design to assure quality care for every veteran.

Rich brought the 265-bed medical center and extended care facility to life, with its 800,000 square feet of space, nearly 1600 employees and \$110 million annual budget, and has given the veterans of South Florida one of the most efficient, technologically-advanced and caring medical facilities in the country.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to thank Richard D. Isaac for his many years of service to the